

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 2739

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, HU

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FONMIN PUJA: PUERTO RICO AND UN DE-
COLONIZATION COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 194115

1. SUBSEQUENT TO RECEIPT OF STATE 194115 ON AUGUST 19 AND PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF WIRELESS BULLETIN REPORTING AUGUST 20 VOTE ON AUSTRALIAN MOTION IN UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE, EMBASSY REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH FONMIN PUJA TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE; AND MCAULIFFE RECEIVED LATE AFTERNOON APPOINTMENT ON AUGUST 21.

2. MCAULIFFE DREW FULLY ON PARA 2, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D OF REFTEL AND LEFT AIDE MEMOIRE. HE ALSO DEVELOPED FULLY IN HIS ORAL PRESENTATION WIRELESS BULLETIN ARTICLE ENTITLED "UN COMMITTEE POSTPONES ACTION ON PUERTO RICO UNTIL 1976", AND LEFT COPY OF THAT ARTICLE. HAVING NOTED THAT HUNGARY NOT MEMBER OF COMMITTEE OF 24 AND THAT PUERTO RICAN ISSUE ALREADY APPARENTLY SHELVED UNTIL 1976, MCAULIFFE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE BELIEVED IT WORTHWHILE TO MAKE THIS PERSONAL EXPOSITION TO HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN LIGHT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S JULY 14 MILWAUKEE ADDRESS, THE FULL TEXT AND HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH (STATE 170841) HAD ALREADY REACHED HIM BY PERSONAL LETTER ON JULY 21.

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3. PUJA, WHO WAS RELAXED AND IN AN UNTYPICAL MOOD THAT BORDERED

ON AFFABILITY, TOOK EXTENSIVE NOTES DURING MCAULIFFE'S ORAL PRESENTATION. HE SAID HE APPRECIATED RECEIVING MCAULIFFE'S JULY 21 LETTER AND THAT HE WAS NOW FAMILIER WITH SUBSTANCE OF SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE ADDRESS WHICH HE FOUND TO BE A CLEAR, LOGICAL AND THOROUGHLY UNDERSTANDABLE EXPOSITION OF U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE UNITED NATIONS. HE SAID HE WAS ALSO GRATEFUL TO RECEIVE AT FIRST HAND PRESENTATION OF U.S. VIEWS ON PUERTO RICAN QUESTION; HE RECALLED EARLIER DEBATES ON SUBJECT IN 1971-72; NOTING THAT ETHIOPIA WAS ABSENT WHEN AUSTRALIAN MOTION WAS VOTED ON AUGUST 20, HE EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR ADDIS ABABA AND REMARKED IN JOCLAR FASHION THAT IT WAS PERHAPS FORTUNATE FOR HIM THAT HUNGARY NOT MEMBER OF UN DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, PUJA SAID THAT RATHER THAN THEORIZE OR REPEAT STATEMENTS OF PAST YEARS, HE WOULD TAKE INTO FULL ACCOUNT THIS USG POLICY STATEMENT AS HE PREPARED HIMSELF AND HIS DELEGATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN 1975 UNGA.

4. ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE PUJA THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS AUGUST 1 MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY IN HELSINKI HAD BEEN POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE AND MOST USEFUL TO HIM. HE HAD REPORTED FULLY ON THAT CONVERSATION TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND TO THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT BOTH OF WHICH SHARED HIS JUDGEMENT THAT HIS EXCHANGE WITH DR. KISSINGER, ALTHOUGH BRIEFER THAN HE WOULD HAVE WISHED, AUGURED WELL FOR US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS. HE ASKED MCAULIFFE TO ADVISE SENIOR AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON THAT HE WAS ENORMOUSLY GRATEFUL THAT INITIATIVE FOR MEETING WITH DR. KISSINGER HAD

COME FROM U.S. SIDE. (COMMENT: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING RECORD OR SUMMARY RECORD OF SECRETARY'S AUGUST 1 MEETING WITH HUNGARIAN FONMIN. EMBOFFS HAVE ONLY PICKED UP BITS AND PIECES OF HUNGARIAN VERSION FROM DEPFONMIN JANOS NAGY AND FROM DR. BANLAKI WHO INTERPRETED.)

5. PUJA SAID HIS PRESENT PLANS ARE TO BE IN NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 5-SEPTEMBER 11 TO ATTEND SPECIAL SESSION; TO RETURN TO BUDAPEST IN TIME FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL'S SEPTEMBER 14-SEPTEMBER 16 VISIT; AND TO TRAVEL TO NEW YORK AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 28 FOR REGULAR UNGA AND TO REMAIN THERE UNTIL MID-OCTOBER. HE HAS INSTRUCTED HUNGARIAN MISSION TO UN AND HUNGARIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO ADVISE USUN AND DEPARTMENT OF HIS TRAVEL PLANS SINCE HE VERY MUCH CONFIDENTIAL

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LOOKS FORWARD TO A FURTHER MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS "SPECIFIC ISSUES", MOVEMENT TOWARD RESOLUTION OF WHICH CAN APPRECIABLY IMPROVE US-HUNGARIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT HE COULD GUESS HOW CROWDED SECRETARY'S CALENDAR MUST BE; THAT, SINCE U.S. SIDE TOOK INITIATIVE FOR HELSINKI MEETING, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT HUNGARY NOW RECIPROCATE; AND THAT HE FELT CERTAIN HE COULD ADJUST HIS OWN SCHEDULE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER "IN NEW YORK OR ELSEWHERE."

6. COMMENT: AUGUST 22 HUNGARIAN PRESS HAS CARRIED PROSAIC REPORTS THAT WARSAW PACT AND CEMA FONMINS MEETINGS IN BUDAPEST AUGUST 18-AUGUST 21 TO CONCERT PRIORITIES FOR SEPTEMBER 1975 UNGA SESSIONS. IT IS TYPICAL OF PUJA THAT, EVEN WHEN RATHER RELAXED AND RELATIVELY CHATTY, HE MADE NO ALLUSION TO GATHERING WITH HIS SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES. IT WAS EQUALLY CLEAR THAT HE HAD RELISHED AND BENEFITTED FROM HIS AUGUST 1 MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY AND THAT HE GENUINELY WANTS ANOTHER ONE.
MCAULIFFE

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